

1920

COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE

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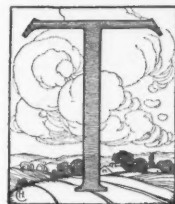
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THE COSMOPOLITAN regrets that the indefinite postponement of Mr. Jack London's around-the-world trip in his forty-five-foot boat makes impossible the fulfilment of the advertised promise of a series of travel articles. We fully share the disappointment with our readers, but we can offer more than the mere announcement of the fact. Beginning with the present issue, Mr. London will contribute to these pages a personal narrative of intense interest entitled "My Life in the Underworld." It is a true and faithful account of the author's life as a tramp. He did not enter the hobo-world for purposes of observation and study; circumstances put him into it. Not sparing himself in the least—he never does that—Mr. London describes very frankly in his realistic manner the means of and struggle for existence of the real tramp—not the experimental sociologist. Here we have a true picture of the man "up against it"—the human animal at bay against the forces that make for peace and order. His actions and subterfuges might not be commended in text-books on ethics, but they make mighty interesting reading all the same. The author was a mere boy at the period of which he writes, and a knowledge of this fact will arouse the sympathy of every reader with a drop of human love and kindness in his veins. The June instalment, entitled "Holding Her Down," is a masterly description of one of the "nerviest" feats it is possible to imagine. It tells how the young tramp outwitted a train-crew and rode a train, on car-top, truck, and platform,

throughout one whole night, while the crew conducted an organized man-hunt at every stop. It is an absorbing tale of many thrilling escapes from a horrible death. "My Life in the Underworld" will run through the remainder of the present year in the COSMOPOLITAN.

As might have been expected, Mr. Barry's article on "Slavery in the South To-Day," in the March issue, caused some vigorous protest to be heard in those regions of our country noted for the disgraceful practice of peonage. The burden of the cry was that reflection was cast upon the entire body of citizens of the states mentioned. It is difficult to see how any such impression could be engendered by Mr. Barry's emphatic article, but that some of the people in Florida are engaged in this wrong-doing cannot be denied—and in fact was not denied. The COSMOPOLITAN is glad to see that its main object in publishing the article—that of bringing about a much-needed reform in these distressing labor conditions in the South—bids fair to be accomplished. Already the Chamber of Commerce of Tampa, Florida, has got to work. That body promptly appointed a committee for investigation, and the following is an extract from its report made to the president and members on March 13th:

It [the committee] finds that there do exist, in the state of Florida, laws which are so loose that employers of unskilled labor and convicts have the opportunity of committing the acts which are the foundation for the articles in question. In view of these conditions, we recommend that a committee be appointed by this Chamber of Commerce to draft a bill, to be introduced at the next session of the legislature, absolutely prohibiting the various counties in this state from allowing their convicts to be worked outside of the county

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in which they have been convicted, and in all cases prohibiting county and state convicts from being worked together; in other words, criminals and those convicted of misdemeanors shall not be worked together; and further that free and convict labor shall not be worked together, and that steps be taken by the Commissioner of Labor, of this state, to keep closer record on unskilled free labor, particularly that employed in lumber camps, by turpentine operators, and by railroad construction companies.

We hope to tell later of similar action on the part of other commercial bodies in the South. The COSMOPOLITAN does not charge that the people of Florida are engaged wholesale in the practice of peonage, but it does charge that their indifference to these conditions is responsible for the existence of this dangerous menace to the life and liberty of the state's more unfortunate inhabitants, and it knows that the better element in the community can quickly make an end to this new form of slavery.

Every reader of the COSMOPOLITAN will be interested in Edward A. Kimball's criticism of Mark Twain's recent volume, "Christian Science." Nearly eight years ago this magazine published Mark Twain's first writing on Christian Science. His views on this subject have not changed since that time, but the appearance of the book has revived interest in what the great humorist and genial philosopher thinks of Mrs. Eddy and her teachings. Of equal interest, however, is what Christian Scientists think of Mark Twain and his book, and that is given our readers in Mr. Kimball's article.

A new feature of the COSMOPOLITAN which will greatly enhance its value to all lovers of the beautiful is the series of timely

articles on art with superb illustrations reproduced by the very effective duograph process. Mr. Caffin's "Portraiture and Fashion" in the April issue and Mr. Hartmann's "The Pretty Woman in Photography" in the present issue are examples of what we shall do in this line. We do not purpose reproducing the familiar pictures of the old masters or other hackneyed material of the kind, but will deal solely with the latest developments of modern art. The June article will treat of "The Art of Paul Helleu" with reproductions of the latest drawings

and dry-points of this very popular portrayer of beautiful women. Other articles in preparation include "Lavery and the Glasgow Painters" by Christian Brinton. John Lavery is rapidly coming forward as the chief rival of John Sargent, who is probably the greatest of living portrait-painters, although the Scotchman's work is as yet practically unknown in this country. Mr. Brinton's article will be elaborately illustrated with duographs of the most famous of Lavery's paintings.



EDWARD A. KIMBALL, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
AUTHOR AND LECTURER, WHO RE-
PLIES TO MARK TWAIN IN
THE PRESENT NUMBER

We have not yet seen what our contemporaries have

produced in the way of covers for May, but we venture to predict that none will be so attractive as the beautiful color-drawing by Harrison Fisher on the outside of the present issue. The covers executed for the coming summer issues are all charming examples of color reproductive art, while the designs are forceful, original, and of commanding beauty. Mr. Fisher will draw a number of pretty-girl studies for COSMOPOLITAN covers, and these, it is believed, will be among the daintiest exterior decorations to be found on any American magazine issued during 1907.

The Edict of the Sex

By Ella
Wheeler
Wilcox



WO thousand years
had passed since
Christ was born,
When suddenly there
rose a mighty host
Of women, sweeping
to a central goal
As many rivers sweep
on to the sea.

They came from mountains, valleys, and
from coasts,
And from all lands, all nations, and all ranks,
Speaking all languages, but thinking one,
And that one language—Peace.

"Listen," they said,
And straightway was there silence on the
earth,
For men were dumb with wonder and
surprise.
"Listen, O mighty masters of the world,
And hear the edict of all womankind:
Since Christ his new commandment gave
to men,

Love one another, full two thousand years
Have passed away, yet earth is red with
blood.

The strong male rulers of the world
proclaim
Their weakness, when we ask that war
shall cease.

Now will the poor weak women of the
world
Proclaim their strength, and say that war
shall end.

Hear, then, our edict: Never from this
day

Will any woman on the crust of earth
Mother a warrior. We have sworn the
oath

And will go barren to the waiting tomb

Rather than breed strong sons, at war's
behest,
Or bring fair daughters into life, to bear
The pains of travail, for no end but war.
Aye! let the race die out for lack of
babes:
Better race-suicide than endless wars!
Better a silent world than noise of guns
And clash of armies.

"Long we asked for peace,
And oft you promised—but to fight again.
At last you told us, war must ever be
While men existed, laughing at our plea
For the disarmament of all mankind.
Then in our hearts flamed such a mad desire
For peace on earth, as lights the world at
times
With some great conflagration; and it
spread

From distant land to land, from sea to sea,
Until all women thought as with one mind
And spoke as with one voice; and now
behold!

The great Crusading Syndicate of Peace,
Filling all space with one supreme resolve.
Give us, O men, your word that war shall
end:

Disarm the world, and we will give you
sons—

Sons to construct, and daughters to adorn
A beautiful new earth, where there shall be
Fewer and finer people, opulence
And opportunity and peace for all.
Until you promise peace no shrill birth-cry
Shall sound again upon the aging earth.
We wait your answer."

And the world was still
While men considered.



"THE ROSE." A PHOTOGRAPHIC ART-STUDY BY S. H. LIPSHEY